



OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

PRESS RELEASE

ONE FRANKLIN STREET • HAMPTON VIRGINIA 23669-3570 • 757-727-2011 • FAX 757-727-2003

DATE: January 4, 2006 CONTACT PERSON: Ann Stephens

HAMPTON PARENTS GIVE SCHOOLS HIGH MARKS

This past fall, Hampton City Schools distributed a comprehensive division-wide Parent Survey to parents of every student in the division, which was a first for the school division. The results are now in and they are fantastic!

With a phenomenal 14,294 scannable surveys returned (representing a 61.5% return rate), a whopping 72% of the parents gave the Hampton school division an overall grade of "A" or "B". This is highly significant in that a national survey – the Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup Poll – recorded only 57% of parents giving their public schools an "A" or B" rating.

The Hampton Parent Survey consisted of 33 statements in four categories, which were School Environment, Student Achievement, Teacher/Staff Expectations, and Support and Service. The Response choices ranged from "Strongly Agree" to "No Opinion." The Overall Grade category included "A", "B", "C", "D" and "F", and the survey also included a section for written comments.

In addition to the high "A/B" rating HCS received, here are some additional highlights from the survey results:

- * 95% of parents agree that their child's school has clear, consistent policies and rules
- * 95% of parents agree that school policies and practices promote high standards.
- * 94% of parents agree that teachers check and return work promptly
- * 94% of parents agree that teachers are available and accessible
- * 94% of parents agree that administrators listen to their concerns
- * 92% of parents agree that they are satisfied with the health, and library and media services in their schools

Hampton school superintendent Dr. Patrick Russo stated that these survey results are very important in that "they serve as a huge vote of confidence and validation by our parents, as we move toward continuous improvement."